

Application No.: 09/909,330  
Amendment dated: August 9, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of May 7, 2004

b.) Remarks

Claims 1-16 and 18-29 are pending in this application. Claim 1 has been amended in various particulars as indicated hereinabove. Claim 29 has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14, 16, and 20 were rejected as being anticipated in view of by the Takara Patent. The Sullivan, Lieberman Ohshima patents were additionally cited against claims 3, 4, 5 8-13, 15, 18, 19. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 requires a linear laser cavity. In contrast, the primary reference discloses a ring configuration. New claim 29 requires that the laser cavity oscillates in only a single longitudinal mode, which is antithetical to the mode-locked arrangement described by the primary reference.

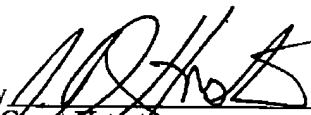
These deficiencies are not addressed by any of the secondary references.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections.

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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